

Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Chair

Committee Assignments

Finance Committee

Transportation, Public Works, and **Transit Committee**

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11th District Milwaukee County Supervisor

Joseph J. Czarnezki

Proudly representing neighborhoods in Milwaukee, Franklin and Greenfield

Dear Neighbor,

Fall 2021

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe and well.

The County Board and its Committees continue to meet virtually to maintain social distancing and ensure the safety of every county employee and resident. We continue to address your concerns and enact important legislation. I am currently serving on the Finance Committee, Transportation, Public Works, and Transit Committee, and as Chairman of the County Board Intergovernmental Relations Committee. If you would like to speak to committee members to express questions, comments, or concerns during a virtual committee meeting, all you have to do is go to: www.milwaukee.gov/ **PublicComment** and follow the instructions provided.

As we near the end of 2021, I am saddened that we are still in the grips of the COVID-19 crisis. If you have not already done so, I strongly urge you to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Information on how to get vaccinated is available at www.healthymke.com.

Finally, this will be my last newsletter to you. I have decided to not seek re-election to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in 2022. It has been an honor and a pleasure to represent the people of Milwaukee, Greenfield, and Franklin as the County Supervisor for the 11th District.

I am proud of everything I have accomplished during my brief tenure. While there is much more work to be done, I believe that the progress my colleagues and I have achieved has made Milwaukee County a better and more equitable place to live, work, and enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who contacted me with their ideas, questions, and policy priorities. Your input has been vital to the success of Milwaukee County.

I will continue to diligently serve the people of the 11th District until the end of my term in April 2022. Therefore, please continue to contact me with your concerns. Your involvement is important to me.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Czarnezki **Milwaukee County Supervisor** 11th District

Virtual Board Meetings Continue



The County Board continues to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can tune in to board and committee meetings on the County Legislative Information Center at county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC.

COVID-19, Structural Deficit Make for Difficult 2022 County Budget

Setting and adopting a balanced budget is the most important task that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors take on each year. Milwaukee County's budget continues to be further complicated by an ongoing structural deficit caused by state revenue caps and the increased cost of state mandated services. On average, county revenues grow by only 1% per year while expenses are expected to increase by 2.4%, the rate of inflation.



Supervisor Czarnezki (left) and Finance Committee Chairman Jason Haas.

Rising to the challenge of adopting a balanced budget each year, Milwaukee County has closed budget gaps of approximately \$300 million over the past decade. The county has done this by reducing its real estate footprint by 1.6 million square feet, reducing staff by 1,400 employees, and deferring \$35 million in maintenance, among other measures. Unfortunately this has also led to reductions in countywide services, including but not limited to our Parks, the Milwaukee County Transit System and public safety functions.

Milwaukee County will receive a total of \$183 million in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). ARPA will provide the county with a needed boost in funds to help recover from the pandemic, but the county's actual revenue loss is estimated to be nearly double the amount received from ARPA.

Milwaukee County continues to advocate for additional revenue options to fund local priorities. Governor Tony Evers included a proposal in his 2021-2023 state budget that would allow counties to raise their sales tax by .5% percent if approved by voters through a referendum process, but this proposal was not included in the adopted state budget.

You can find out how to help solve Milwaukee County's mounting budget issues by visiting moveforwardmke.com.

Brand Shift: The Milwaukee County Vision, Logo, Seal and Brand

New County Logo

The new Milwaukee County Logo was created specifically with racial equity in mind. It is a representation of our



common understanding that, by achieving racial equity, Milwaukee will be the healthiest county in Wisconsin and a symbol of our commitment to foster new ways and new systems that are fair and equitable for all our neighbors.

The "M" letterform represents Milwaukee County — but even more than that, with its lines and angles, it suggests the conventional way things have been done, the systems that have been in place. Placed upon the M is the equity arc, which intentionally breaks the form. Instead of straight lines, it's a curve — a new way. It ascends and expands forward, reaching up and out toward the highest place. Because it's something unorthodox, the arc is open to the viewer's interpretation.

County Seal

The official Milwaukee County Seal was created and approved by the County Board in July 1965.



1965 County Seal

This description was presented to describe the redesigned seal: The focal point of the new seal is a large "M" representing the manufacturing plants in the county. Also

included on the seal is a home signifying the fact that a large percent of the people in the county own their own homes. Eleven diagonal lines represent the scope of county government with its major services: legislative, executive, staff, general government, judicial, public safety, public works, recreation, culture and health and welfare. The border of M's around the seal place emphasis on Milwaukee and on industry as the M's form the shape of a gear for Milwaukee has been called the Machine Shop of the World.

Milwaukee County Parks Need Your Help!

Our Parks system has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in staff cuts, spending freezes, and revenue losses. Learn about volunteer opportunities, share stories, and donate at loveyourparksmke.com.



The 11th Supervisory District is home to the Friends of Grobschmidt and Friends of Wedgewood groups. You can learn more about Friends groups by visiting parkpeoplemke.org or calling (414) 273-7275.



For legislative files, agendas, minutes and schedules for all Milwaukee County committee and board meetings, please visit the County Legislative Information Center at:

county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC

Task Force Will Guide Spending of American Rescue Plan Act Funds

As a part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress provided Milwaukee County with \$183.6 million in federal funding.

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in July to create the ARPA Task Force, which will provide recommendations to the County Board on how to allocate these federal funds and create a public engagement process to ensure diverse community input.

U.S. Treasury Department guidance on allowable uses include:

- Supporting public health expenditures
- Addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency
- Replacing lost public sector revenue
- Providing premium pay for essential workers
- Investing in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

The ARPA funding Milwaukee County received will help the county's recovery, but as a one-time infusion of cash it does not effectively address Milwaukee County's long-term structural deficit.

In September the ARPA Task Force unanimously approved a framework for recommending ARPA funding, recommending that the County allocate 63% of ARPA dollars to revenue loss recovery, 20% to community support, 13% to COVID-19 mitigation, and 4% to fund administration.

6th District County Supervisor Shawn Rolland and former United Community Center Executive Director Ricardo Diaz serve as co-chairs of the ARPA Task Force. The Task Force plans to hold public hearings through the fall and winter to solicit ideas and recommendations for ARPA funding from the community.

Information on how to submit ideas to the ARPA Task Force can be found at **county.milwaukee.gov/arpa.taskforce**. Records of the ARPA Task Force, including meeting agendas, minutes, and archived videos of proceedings can be found at milwaukeecounty.legistar. com/Calendar.aspx.



IMPACT 2-1-1 is a central access point for people in need. During times of personal Get Connected. Get Answers. crisis or community disaster, the free,

confidential helpline and online resource directory make it easy for residents to get connected to information and assistance. Simply dial 2-1-1. If you want detailed information please go to: www.impactinc.org/impact-2-1-1.

Governor Evers Partially Restores Funding Gap for Transit in Milwaukee County

Source: RideMCTS.com

Governor Tony Evers announced a \$19.7 million investment in transit services for Milwaukee County, partially restoring some of the funds that were cut by the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance during the state budget process earlier this year.

The investment – which was supported by the state's American Rescue Plan Act dollars – will help fill a gap in funding created when Republican legislators voted to cut \$32.7 million from public transit funding in Milwaukee County over the biennium.

The resources provided will help Milwaukee County support transit services to help Wisconsinites get to work, school and job training, medical appointments, and other activities, especially lowto-middle-income Wisconsinites, individuals with disabilities, and communities of color who disproportionately depend on public transit.

"I often talk about connecting the dots, and that is exactly what our vital transit systems do across our state, helping workers, families, and students get from point A to point B safely," said Gov. Evers. "For our most urban centers to be targeted by Republican cuts during the last budget was a slap in the face to the disproportionate number of Wisconsinites in those communities who depend on public transit to get to school, work, doctor's appointments—you name it. I am glad to be putting our ARPA funds to good use in these communities to help ensure our families, workers and businesses, and our economic drivers for the state continue to bounce back from the pandemic and see long-term economic recovery."

"Thank you to Congress for passing the American Rescue Plan and thank you to Governor Evers for recognizing the importance of funding a key resource for Milwaukee County residents. Transportation is an important resource in any community, but especially in Milwaukee County where we believe every resident should have connections to job centers, grocery stores, medical offices, and recreation," said Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley. "This is an investment in equity for our county and the exact kind of actions we need to take if we want to see families, communities, and our economy succeed for years to come."



Governor Evers held a press conference to announce a \$19.7 million investment in Milwaukee County's transit services.

Joseph J. Czarnezki | 11th District Milwaukee County Supervisor



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Service Guide for 11th District Milwaukee County Residents

'8-4253
7-5300 51-3222
5-2593
8-5362
8-4067
8-4211
8-4033
/8-4120 /8-4538 67-7700
9-6874
9-6877
8-4646
/8-4060
78-4766 78-5252 72-2876 67-4709

Suicide Prevention/Intervention Mental Health Crisis	257_7222
Fraud Hotline	93-FRAUD
House of Correction	427-4700
Jury Services	
General Information	
Reserve Juror Message	985-6000
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts	273-7121
Marriage Licenses/Passports/Fishing Lic	278-4067
Medical Examiner	223-1200
Mental Health Complex	
General Information	257-6995
Admitting (Emergency)	257-7260
Milwaukee Art Museum	224-3200
Milwaukee County Historical Society	273-8288
Milwaukee County Parks	
Boerner Botanical Gardens	525-5600
General Information	
Parks Hotline	257-5100
Golf Office	257-8024
District 11 Parks	
Armour Park (6105 W. Norwich Ave.)	281-6289
Barnard Park (3300 W. Barnard Ave.)	281-6289
Froemming Park (8801 S 51ct St)	281-2694

Grobschmidt Park (3751 W. College Ave.)	281-628
Lyons Park (3301 S. 55th St.)	
Maitland Park (6001 S. 13th St.)	
Wedgewood Park (7201 W. Wedgewood Dr.)	
Zablocki Park (3717 W. Howard Ave.)	281-628
Milwaukee County Zoo	771-304
Milwaukee County Sports Complex	281-269
Milwaukee Public Museum	278-270
Municipalities	
Franklin	425-750
Greenfield	
Milwaukee2	86-CITY (2489
Office of Persons with Disabilities	278-393
Register in Probate	278-444
Register of Deeds	278-402
Rent Assistance	278-489
Transit System	
Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares	344-671
Customer Comments	937-321
Transit Plus	343-170
UW-Extension	256-460
Veterans Services	266-123
Victim/Witness Service	278-466